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Resolution on Agro-Industrial Management Adopted

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[Unattributed report: "In the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a resolution "On Further Improving the Economic Management Mechanism in the Country's Agro-Industrial Complex."

The resolution notes that the implementation of the tasks posed by the 27th CPSU Congress to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development requires resolute shifts in improving the activity of agro-industrial complex enterprises and organizations, ameliorating the entire economic mechanism in this most important sector of the national economy, and expanding the independence and increasing the responsibility of kolkhozes and sovkhozes for the results of activity.

The existing major production potential in the agro-industrial complex, the emerging positive shifts in its development since the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) and April (1985) Plenums, and the restructuring of management have created favorable prerequisites for accelerating production growth rates, improving output quality, and ensuring the fullest satisfaction of the population's requirements for foodstuffs and the processing industry's requirements for raw materials.

At the same time the existing economic management mechanism and existing methods and practice of planning and incentives inadequately orient kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agro-industrial complex enterprises and organizations and local soviet and economic organs toward the fuller utilization of the existing production potential, the extensive introduction of the achievements of science and advanced practice, the ensuring of the stable development of agriculture and related sectors, the reduction of output losses at all stages of output production, storage, and processing, and the successful resolution of the problems of the social restructuring of the countryside.

Poor use is made of the normative method of planning, financial autonomy, and progressive forms of labor organization and remuneration; disproportions are permitted in the development of individual sectors and regions; and numerous instructions restrict independence and the development of initiative and enterprise in economic activity.

In executing the decisions of the party's 27th congress and with a view to raising the economic interest of labor collectives and ensuring precise and interconnected work by all components of the agro-industrial complex, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have deemed it necessary to carry out a range of measures to improve the economic management mechanism; to extensively introduce new planning and economic incentive methods on the basis of progressive normatives; to expand the rights of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agro-industrial complex enterprises and organizations in resolving economic questions; and to step up the interest and responsibility of labor collectives and all management components for intensifying production, making extensive use of the achievements of scientific and technical progress, and ensuring high end results.

Particular attention is drawn to ensuring that republics, krays, oblasts, and rayons consistently improve food supplies to the population by making maximum use of local resources and the potential of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, citizens' personal subsidiary farms, collective horticulture, and the subsidiary farms of enterprises, organizations, and institutions, and also by ensuring the extensive introduction of waste-free techniques in food and other sectors of the processing industry and raising the quality of food products.

For each of the years of the 12th 5-Year Plan, the resolution sets stable grain purchase plans at the level of the 1986 plan.

With a view to stimulating increases in grain procurements for state resources in 1986-1990, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises are to be paid for grain sold over and above the average annual level of the 11th 5-Year Plan at the rate of a 100-percent premium to the purchase price provided that the state plans for grain sales are fulfilled (farms exceeding this level but not fulfilling the plan will receive a 50-percent premium). These premiums on the purchase prices of durum wheat grain, buckwheat, peas, millet, beans, mung beans, chick-peas, and lentils are to be paid irrespective of whether the level of grain sales as a whole is exceeded.

For farms that overfulfill the plans for grain sales to the state countersales of trucks, tractors, various types of agricultural machinery, and other resources in heightened demand have been introduced. The USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee [Gosagroprom] has been instructed to create special material resource funds for these purposes.

The provision to republics, krays, oblasts, rayons, and farms of grain seeds from state resources over and above the levels stipulated by the plan will take place, as a rule, on an exchange basis or in the form of a loan which must be repaid from the following year's harvest.

In order to enhance the interest of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises in increasing production of sunflowers, soybeans, and sugar beet, it is planned that, starting with the 1986 harvest, they will be sold the following for each quintal of crops sold to the state:

— 40 kg of oilseed meal (cake) and 20 kg of mixed feed for each quintal of sunflowers of the "Pervenets" variety (and other similar varieties);

— 10 kg of oilseed meal (cake) and 20 kg of mixed feed for each quintal of other varieties of sunflowers, and 30 kg of oilseed meal (cake) and 20 kg of mixed feed for each quintal sold over and above the average harvest achieved in the 11th 5-Year Plan;

— 30 kg of oilseed meal (cake) and 50 kg of mixed feed for each quintal of soybeans;

— 1.5 kg of molasses, 1 kg of mixed feed, and 60 kg of pulp residues for each quintal of sugar beet, and 5 kg of molasses, 2

kg of mixed feed, and 80 kg of pulp residues for each quintal sold over and above the average harvest achieved in the 11th 5-Year Plan.

It is deemed necessary to pay premiums at a rate of 50 percent of the purchase price in 1987-1990 for sales to the state by kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises of sunflowers, sugar beet, raw cotton (fiber), soybeans, flax and hemp (straw, stock, and fiber), potatoes, leaf tea, hops, mustard, essential-oil crops, poppies (including seeds), livestock and poultry, milk, wool, astrakhan, and velvet antlers over and above the average level achieved in the 11th 5-Year Plan. Table grapes, citrus fruit, onions, garlic, alfalfa, clover, and cereal grasses are included in the list of products for which the aforementioned premiums are to be paid.

It is planned that as of 1987 plans for state purchases of livestock, poultry, milk, eggs, potatoes, vegetables, cucurbits, fruits and berries, table grapes, citrus fruit, and dried fruit will not be set for union and autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts, but that fixed plans will be established for each year of the 5-year plan for delivering the relevant products to all-union and republic stocks (or for deriving subsidies from them) and for delivering pedigree livestock. Rayons and farms will be set fixed plans for purchases of agricultural output under the established procedure.

With a view to increasing local organs' interest in increasing production of food products and improving the supply of these products to the population, it is deemed expedient to leave milk and meat resources and other output after fulfillment of the plans for delivery to all-union and republic stocks wholly at the disposal of councils of ministers of union republics which are not divided into oblasts, autonomous republic councils of ministers, krayispolkoms, and oblispolkoms. Where necessary, the implementation of mutual exchanges of foodstuffs among republics, krays, and oblasts on a contractual basis is authorized, making extensive use of consumer cooperative organizations to this end. It is laid down that the range of foodstuffs produced at enterprises of the USSR Gosagroprom system for local supply is to be determined by the councils of ministers of union republics which are not divided into oblasts, autonomous republic councils of ministers, krayispolkoms, and oblispolkoms.

Total responsibility for the timely delivery of food products to all-union and republic stocks in the volumes and ranges specified shall rest with union and autonomous republic councils of ministers, krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, union and autonomous republic gosagroproms, and the agro-industrial committees of krays and oblasts. The amounts underdelivered to the aforesaid stocks are to be made good from the resources of the republics, krays, and oblasts in the following quarter or year.

The established procedure is to be strictly followed by farms when using meat and milk for intrafarm needs.

It is deemed necessary for the plans for kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises to be drawn up taking account of the development both of social production and of the personal subsidiary farms of citizens living on their territory. The USSR Central Statistical Administration is instructed to make the necessary additions to accounting and reporting procedures in order to reflect the development of social production and personal subsidiary farms on the corresponding territories.

Planning is to be carried out on the basis of the notified control figures laid down in the established procedure for purchases of agricultural output, capital investment quotas, and deliveries of the main types of material resources, which are determined on the basis of normatives allowing for the economic assessment of land and the availability of fixed production capital and labor and other resources.

After discussion at labor collective meetings, farm plans are referred upward to the immediately superior organ. The total volume of sales of agricultural produce to the state must not be lower than the average annual level reached over the preceding 5 years.

The USSR Gosagroprom and the USSR Gosplan are instructed to ensure that corresponding normatives are drawn up and introduced into planning practice as of 1987.

The resolution lays down that in drawing up long-term and annual plans the USSR Gosagroprom, the USSR Gosplan, and union republic councils of ministers must make provision for the formation of specialized raw material zones and the rational siting of processing industry enterprises, bearing in mind the creation on this basis of integrated agro-industrial associations, combines, and enterprises ensuring the comprehensive utilization of raw material resources, the production of high-quality food products and industrial goods, and the reduction of transport and other costs. At the same time they must ensure the development in farms and consumer cooperative organizations of capacities for storing and processing agricultural products in order to ensure more regular deliveries to consumers.

The USSR Gosagroprom and the USSR Central Statistical Administration are instructed as of 1987 to substantially reduce the number of indicators in plan documentation, annual reports, and the operational returns of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agro-industrial complex enterprises.

It is established that union and autonomous republic councils of ministers, krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, union and autonomous republic gosagroproms, and kray and oblast agro-industrial committees are fully responsible for providing stockraising with high-quality concentrated feed which is balanced in terms of protein and other components and for ensuring its rational use. It is deemed necessary for the volume of production of mixed feed and protein and vitamin additives and their ranges to be determined by union republic councils of ministers taking account of proposals from local soviet and economic organs. In order to produce this output extensive use must be made of the local raw material resources of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural and industrial enterprises.

The existing procedure for supplying mixed feed to poultry farms, large stockraising complexes, and specialized consumers is retained.

Union republic councils of ministers have been granted the right to introduce countersales of mixed feed, using the funds at their

disposal, when purchasing individual types of agricultural output.

The USSR Gosagroprom and its local organs have been instructed to introduce as of 1987 new feed expenditure normatives ensuring a reduction in grain expenditure per unit of livestock product production.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have instructed the USSR Gosagroprom and union republic councils of ministers to implement a range of measures to increase production of vegetable and animal protein, ensuring complete balance in the feed used in stockraising by the end of the 12th 5-Year Plan. With a view to enhancing the interest of local organs in increasing production of feed protein, it has been established that feed yeast, tankage, whole milk substitute, and other high-protein industrial feed additives produced over and above plan at enterprises situated on the territories of oblasts, krays, and autonomous and union republics (without oblast divisions) will remain wholly at their disposal.

It is deemed necessary to extend to 1987-1990 the payment of premiums on the purchase prices of agricultural products sold to the state by low-profitability and loss-making kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises working in poor natural and economic conditions. These premiums are to be paid at the existing rate and under the procedure laid down in accordance with Paragraph 2 of CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers Resolution No 1017 of 25 November 1982.

Union and autonomous republic councils of ministers, krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, rayispolkoms, union and autonomous republic gosagroproms, kray and oblast agro-industrial committees, and rayon agro-industrial associations are instructed to draw up and implement specific measures for each low-profitability and loss-making farm which guarantee an acceleration of the growth rate of agricultural output, a reduction in unproductive expenditure, a reduction in output prime cost, and an increase in labor productivity and production profitability.

The USSR Gosagroprom, the USSR State Committee on Prices, and the USSR Central Statistical Administration are instructed to step up controls over the changing of prices of industrial products and services for agriculture, the prime cost of agricultural output, and production profitability. Proposals will be made as necessary to the USSR Council of Ministers to maintain price equivalence [tsenovaya ekvivalentnost] by making the corresponding changes to purchase prices in connection with the growth in kolkhoz and sovkhoz overheads engendered by increased prices for industrial output.

Union republic councils of ministers, in coordination with the USSR Gosagroprom and the USSR State Committee on Prices, are authorized where necessary to change the purchase prices of individual types of agricultural products within the limits of the total sum paid for the planned volume of purchases of agricultural products.

In order to reduce losses of fruit and vegetable products and to actively influence the reduction of kolkhoz market prices, union and autonomous republic gosagroproms and kray and oblast agro-industrial committees are empowered to set retail prices for vegetables, fruit, grapes, potatoes, cucurbits, green vegetables, and other highly perishable fruit and vegetable products sold through stores under their jurisdiction.

With a view to stimulating sovkhozes and other USSR Gosagroprom system enterprises to process fruit, vegetable, and other products, wild fruit and berries, and mushrooms and to produce new types of foodstuffs in demand among the population (juices, fruit drinks, jams, preserves, canned goods, and others), they are authorized to sell these products through stores under their jurisdiction at promotional prices set by oblast and kray agro-industrial committees, autonomous republic gosagroproms, and the gosagroproms of union republics (with no oblast divisions). It is established that up to 50 percent of the profits earned from selling these products shall be allocated to the fund for sociocultural measures.

The USSR Gosagroprom and its local organs are instructed to implement measures to further strengthen production contacts between kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises on the one hand and consumer cooperative organizations and citizens' personal subsidiary farms on the other. Kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises are authorized to sell up to 30 percent of the planned volume of purchases of potatoes, vegetables, cucurbits, fruit and berries, table grapes, and any above-plan agricultural output to consumer cooperative organizations and at kolkhoz markets, crediting these sales toward the fulfillment of the plan for prices in accordance with contracts. Farms may also use above-plan agricultural output for other needs at their discretion.

It is established that as of 1986 livestock and poultry raised on citizens' personal subsidiary farms in accordance with contracts will be purchased by consumer cooperative organizations directly or through kolkhozes and sovkhozes and will be sold at cooperative trade prices mainly to ensure local supplies to the population of cities and industrial and rayon centers. The USSR Gosagroprom, together with the USSR Gosplan, the USSR Ministry of Finance, the USSR Central Statistical Administration, and the Tsentrosoyuz have been given 2 months to draw up and ratify a standard contract between consumer cooperative organizations and kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and citizens with personal subsidiary farms for the production and sale of meat and other agricultural products and to specify the procedure for crediting that production toward the fulfillment of the plan for sales to the state and the procedure for incentive payments for kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The point of departure here must be that, as an integral component of socialist agricultural production, citizens' personal subsidiary farms, relying on assistance from kolkhozes and sovkhozes, are called upon to more fully satisfy rural inhabitants' requirements for meat, milk, eggs, potatoes, vegetables, fruit, and other foodstuffs and to sell any surpluses through the cooperative trade system and on the kolkhoz market.

Kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agro-industrial complex enterprises are instructed to increase sales to the population of grain forage, coarse and succulent feed, seeds and planting stock, young animals and poultry, and solid fuel. Aid to citizens' personal subsidiary farms in working homestead plots and in agrochemical and veterinary services is to be expanded. The

complete satisfaction of the population's need for young hogs and poultry is to be achieved in the next 2 years. Citizens who are working actively in social production and who have personal subsidiary farms are to be encouraged in every possible way.

With a view to reinforcing the principles of financial autonomy in the work of sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises, it is established that, as of 1987, wage funds are to be built by the farms themselves on the basis of normatives that will remain stable throughout the 5-year plan per R100 of (gross) agricultural output sold. The USSR Gosagroprom together with the USSR Gosplan, the USSR Ministry of Finance, the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, and the USSR Gosbank have been given 6 months to draw up and ratify a procedure for establishing normatives for building up wage funds and allocating labor remuneration funds to sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises. These normatives are to ensure preferential growth in labor productivity in comparison with wages growth. For output produced over and above the level at which the normative is fixed, for each 1 percent growth in output sales (production) the wages fund is determined on the basis of an amended figure averaging 80 percent of the normative figure. Savings on the wages funds are channeled in equal measure into the farm's material incentive fund and reserve fund; overexpenditure is recouped from these funds or, should these prove inadequate, by reducing the bonuses paid to the farm collective. Should average wage growth rates outstrip labor productivity growth rates, a corresponding proportion of the material incentive fund is reserved by the enterprise for use in the following year in providing incentives for further labor productivity growth and increasing production efficiency or channeled into the fund for sociocultural measures in the current year.

Taking into account the fact that the collective contract and financial autonomy are highly important factors in improving production efficiency, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have set the USSR Gosagroprom and its local organs the task of organizing in the shortest possible period the transition of all production subunits of agricultural, processing, and other enterprises onto a footing of collective contract and financial autonomy. The introduction of the shop structure for production management and of a system for remunerating the leaders of structural subunits and specialists for the end product is to be ensured. The transition of shop, team, livestock unit, and link collectives and of farms as a whole to labor remuneration on the basis of gross revenue is to be more extensively practiced. The USSR Gosagroprom and the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, together with the AUCCTU, have been given 3 months to approve recommendations on labor remuneration based on gross revenue.

With a view to further enhancing workers' material interest in the growth of output, sovkhoz directors and leaders of other state agricultural enterprises are empowered, within the limit of the approved wages fund (normative), to establish rates of pay for output on the basis of an increase of up to 150 percent in wage scales depending on the growth of agricultural crop harvest yields and of livestock and poultry productivity, without allowing any increase in wage costs per unit of output for the farm as a whole.

The resolution establishes bonus payments for the collectives of subdivisions of sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises for savings on the direct costs envisaged in their targets, such payments amounting to 70 percent of any savings effected, while in the event of the prescribed expenditure being exceeded, any such excess is to be reimbursed from funds allocated for the collectives' wages and bonus payments. Kolkhozes are recommended to introduce a similar procedure for bonus payments and the utilization of the wages fund.

Depending on specific production conditions, sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises are authorized and kolkhozes are recommended to use family and personal contracts in horticulture and stockraising as one form of collective contract. Moreover, rates of pay for output are to be determined according to the procedure established for collectives working under contract conditions.

Farm leaders are empowered to allow workers in contract collectives to retain as payment in kind up to 25 percent of any output produced over and above the volume set by the contract (if so desired, a payment equivalent to the retail price value of such output can be made). No wage earnings are to be credited in respect of any produce retained.

It is deemed necessary to introduce wage payments to leading workers, specialists, and employees on sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises according to pay rates (normatives) geared to sold (gross) output. The setting of pay rates (normatives) must be based on current salary scales and the level of sales (production) of output achieved in the preceding 5 years. An advance payment equivalent to 80 percent of the current salary scale amount can be made pending the calculation of output figures. Kolkhozes are recommended to adopt a similar wages system.

With a view to boosting the interest of leading workers, specialists, and employees on sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises in saving material, labor, and other resources and in increasing production efficiency, it is envisaged that the following bonus payments be made to them from the material incentives fund or, in the event of shortages in that fund, from the wages fund:

— up to one-tenth of monthly salary for every percentage point of profitability;

— half of monthly salary for every percentage point of profitability growth over and above the level achieved in the preceding 5 years.

Farms which are planned to incur losses are allowed to link bonus payments to this category of workers with any reduction of planned losses, channeling to this purpose up to 10 percent of the amount by which losses have been reduced in comparison with the average annual indicators for the preceding 5 years.

In the event of farms not fulfilling the plan for sales of grain, milk, livestock, and poultry to the state, and in the case of specialized farms also failing to fulfill their basic sector production plan, and also in the event of wages growth being faster than labor productivity growth, leading workers, specialists, and

employees are fully or partially deprived of any credited bonus payments by decision of the rayon agro-industrial association or other superior organizations. The total amount of bonus paid to any worker, including all payments from the material incentives fund and bonuses under special bonus payment systems, must not exceed his basic annual earnings calculated on the basis of rates of pay for output. Kolkhozes are recommended to adopt a similar bonus payments procedure.

It has been established that the total amount allocated for bonus payments to leading workers and specialists on kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other state agricultural enterprises under the provisions of existing regulations for increasing the output and sales of sugar beet, sunflowers, oil-producing poppies, and groundnuts is to be transferred by procurement and processing enterprises to farms' material incentives funds.

With a view to stepping up the interest and enhancing the responsibility of rayon (interrayon) repair enterprises, enterprises for agrochemical and energy services, and supply bases (offices) for ensuring that kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agro-industrial complex enterprises are supplied with the necessary material and technical resources and that contractual obligations are properly fulfilled, quarterly bonus payments amounting to three-fourths of monthly salary have been instituted for leaders, specialists, and employees. In addition to this, they will be paid bonuses on the basis of annual results with respect to any growth in the volume of sales of agricultural produce by the farms they serve in comparison with the level achieved in the preceding 5 years, with such bonuses amounting to up to 3 months' salary per worker. The bonuses will be paid following a decision by the rayon agro-industrial association (agro-industrial committee), provided contracts with kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other enterprises have been fulfilled. Bonus payments for workers are also envisaged for the prompt and proper fulfillment of the targets set for the team, section, or shop in accordance with the enterprise's contractual obligations, with such payments to be based on quarterly results of work and not to exceed 1.5 month's salary. Bonus payments are to be made from the material incentives fund and the wages fund.

As a result of the introduction of the new procedure for labor remuneration and bonus payments to workers, leading workers, specialists, and employees on sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises and also in rayon (interrayon) repair enterprises, enterprises for agrochemical and energy services, and supply bases (offices), all previously established bonuses for increasing production and sales of individual types of agricultural produce together with other bonuses and conditions for their payment are abolished, except for bonuses to workers on sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises in respect of growth in the sales (production) of agricultural output.

With a view to enhancing the interest and responsibility of management organs in the agro-industrial complex for the end results of production, payments are introduced for leading workers and specialists in the management apparatus of rayon agro-industrial associations, autonomous republic gosagroproms, and kray and oblast agro-industrial committees, with such payments to be made according to rates linked with the volume of output sold. The determination of these rates is to be based on current salary scales and the level of output sales achieved in the preceding 5 years. An advance payment equivalent to 90 percent of monthly salary can be made pending the caluclation of output figures.

Bonus payments are established for leading workers and specialists of rayon agro-industrial associations, kray and oblast agro-industrial committees, and autonomous republic gosagroproms. The total amount of bonus credited to each worker must not exceed 6 months' salary for rayon agro-industrial associations or 4 months' salary for autonomous republic gosagroproms or kray and oblast agro-industrial committees.

The resolution lays down that, as a rule, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises within the USSR Gosagroprom system effect expanded reproduction and engage in the construction of projects for nonproduction purposes out of their own resources or from USSR Gosbank credits within the credit plan limits. Budget appropriations are allocated to agricultural enterprises mainly for expenditure on the further development of the material and technical base for boosting the production of agricultural output or solving social problems. The size of such appropriations for the years of the 12th 5-Year Plan will be determined, taking the 1986 plan as the starting point, with due consideration for the growth of gross output, the volume of capital investments in the year in question, and the increase in the share of enterprises' own funds for the development of production.

It is deemed necessary to effect during the 12th 5-Year Plan period, as circumstances permit, a transition to the financing of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other enterprises and organizations within the USSR Gosagroprom system on the basis of consolidated items of expenditure, as a rule from the budgets of oblasts, krays, or autonomous republics.

The USSR Gosagroprom, union and autonomous republic gosagroproms, kray and oblast agro-industrial committees, and rayon agro-industrial associations are empowered:

— to effect a redistribution of allocated budget appropriations according to the channels of their utilization;

— to amend the quarterly distribution of budget appropriations depending on progress in the fulfillment of plan measures;

— to submit proposals for amendments to appropriations from the budget and payments into the budget without altering mutual relations with the budget as a whole.

State agricultural enterprises are authorized to finance plan measures by utilizing all free financial resources at their disposal regardless of their provenance.

It is deemed necessary that, as of 1987, sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises and organizations make payments into the budget from profits, while kolkhozes pay income tax according to normatives which are stable for the 5-year plan years and are established with due consideration for the economic assessment of land and the availability of fixed capital and labor resources. In this connection the USSR Ministry of Finance and

the USSR Gosagroprom have been instructed to elaborate and approve within a period of 6 months the normatives for payments into the budget and the procedure for making such payments.

In order to develop interfarm enterprises for the production, processing, and storage of agricultural produce and other specialized enterprises, and also for the purpose of equalizing conditions for economic activity on kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other enterprises and rendering assistance to farms suffering from the effect of natural disasters, consent has been given to create centralized reserve funds in rayon agro-industrial associations, oblast and kray agro-industrial committees, autonomous and union republic gosagroproms, and the USSR Gosagroprom (for enterprises under union jurisdiction) by transferring funds from sovkhozes, kolkhozes (subject to their agreement), and other state enterprises and organizations within the USSR Gosagroprom system.

Sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises are empowered to distribute their profits (after payments into the budget and interest payments on USSR Gosbank loans) at their own discretion, utilizing them to repay USSR Gosbank credits, to develop production and implement other plan measures, to form economic incentive funds (material incentives and social and cultural measures) and farm reserve funds, and to transfer funds into centralized reserve funds. Any surplus of funds belonging to sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises and unutilized at the end of the year is not subject to confiscation.

It is incumbent upon the USSR Gosagroprom and union republic councils of ministers, as the economies of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agro-industrial complex enterprises and organizations grow stronger, to transfer their activity to the basis of the principle of self-financing.

It is laid down that credits are granted to kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and organizations within the USSR Gosagroprom system with consideration for the preservation and rational utilization of their own funds and the prompt repayment of credits that are granted.

The USSR Gosbank, by agreement with the USSR Gosagroprom and the USSR Ministry of Finance, has been ordered to elaborate and introduce standard regulations for the provision of short-term credits to kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises and organizations to meet the costs of material assets and production expenditure without subdividing them into projects for which credit is being given and with due consideration for the overall normative of circulating capital, and also to implement measures to further unify the granting of credits to other enterprises and organizations within the USSR Gosagroprom system. During the 12th 5-Year Plan period, when granting credits to kolkhozes which have no funds of their own to ensure expanded reproduction, the USSR Gosbank must use as the normative for own circulating capital the amount of such capital existing as at 1 January 1987 and its planned annual growth.

It is laid down that long-term credits made available under the long-term credit plan to kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other enterprises and organizations within the USSR Gosagroprom system are granted:

— for the construction, expansion, reconstruction, and retooling of projects for production purposes over a repayment period not to exceed 20 years, with repayments beginning in the fifth year following the granting of the credit;

— for the acquisition of agricultural equipment, means of transportation, and machinery not included in construction project estimates, over a period not to exceed 7 years with repayments beginning in the third year following the granting of the credit;

— for the construction of projects for nonproduction purposes on kolkhozes for a period of up to 15 years, with repayments beginning in the fifth year following the granting of the credit.

The USSR Gosbank is authorized to grant credits to kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and processing and other enterprises and organizations within the USSR Gosagroprom system for the construction, expansion, reconstruction, and retooling of projects for production purposes (in excess of the capital investment quota) for a period of up to 6 years, with repayments to be made from additionally earned income, such loans being subject to a 3-percent annual interest charge.

It is deemed necessary to reschedule the outstanding debts owed by low-profitability and loss-making kolkhozes, sovkhozes, other state agricultural enterprises, processing enterprises, and interfarm construction organizations in respect of USSR Gosbank loans due for repayment in 1986-1990, making them repayable over a period of 10 years beginning in 1995. The enterprises and organizations in question are released from making payments of interest in respect of USSR Gosbank loans whose repayment has been rescheduled in accordance with this resolution.

With a view to creating stable financial conditions for normal operation by kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises suffering from the effect of natural disasters or other adverse weather conditions, it is deemed necessary as of 1986 to increase the level of insurance compensation to 60 percent of the value of the shortfall in the harvest of agricultural crops.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have made it incumbent upon the USSR Gosagroprom, the USSR Ministry of Finance, and the USSR Gosbank to step up their monitoring of the production-financial activity of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agro-industrial complex enterprises and organizations, the preservation of their own circulating capital, the efficient utilization of credits granted to them, and the prompt repayment of such credits. It is laid down that enterprises which systematically fail to fulfill their plans; incur above-plan expenses, nonproduction expenditure, and losses; violate financial discipline; and fail to ensure prompt repayment of credits, are made subject to special credit regulations by USSR Gosbank offices in accordance with established procedures.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers consider that the most important tasks in the sphere of capital construction are:

— to further enhance the effectiveness of capital investments and channel them into meeting the priority requirements of the development of the production, processing, and storage of agri-

cultural produce, reconstructing and retooling existing enterprises, ensuring the construction of enterprises and projects strictly in accordance with established norms for the duration of construction work and the commissioning of planned capacities, and accelerating the social restructuring of the countryside as a most important factor for the creation of stable labor collectives;

— to enhance the role and responsibility of all components of the agro-industrial complex for the acceleration of scientific and technical progress on the basis of introducing into planning and construction practice highly efficient energy- and resources-saving technologies and new equipment, automating production processes, and making extensive use of robotic complexes and flexible automated lines ensuring substantial growth of output and labor productivity;

— to strengthen in every way and further develop the material and technical base of the USSR Gosagroprom's construction organizations, further expand the integration of the own-resources and contractual methods of construction, build up the capacities of construction industry enterprises, increase the degree of prefabrication of articles and components produced, make extensive use of advanced structural components and local materials in construction, and reduce the costs and considerably improve the quality of planning and construction and installation work.

With a view to expanding the rights and enhancing the role and responsibility of enterprises and organizations within the agro-industrial complex system in the implementation of capital construction, it is laid down that as of 1987 all capital construction plan indicators will be set by sovkhozes and other state enterprises and organizations within the limits of notified capital investment and construction and installation work quotas, and by kolkhozes taking into account the same indicators notified to them and backed up by material and technical resources. Provision must be made here for adhering to the normative schedules for project construction.

On the basis of the plans of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other enterprises and organizations, rayon agro-industrial associations, oblast and kray agro-industrial committees, autonomous and union republic gosagroproms, union republic councils of ministers, and the USSR Gosagroprom will elaborate consolidated plans for capital construction within the agro-industrial complex and will submit them in line with established procedures.

Sovkhozes, processing enterprises, and other state enterprises and organizations within the agro-industrial complex system are authorized, seeking out their own funds and material resources, to engage in the construction of projects for production and nonproduction purposes, and also to incur expenditure on perennial planting and the acquisition of machines, equipment, and agricultural technology in excess of the state capital investment quotas set for them in annual plans.

Kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other enterprises and organizations within the agro-industrial complex system are empowered to elaborate (order) planning and estimate documentation for the retooling and reconstruction of projects for production purposes, with an estimated cost of such works of up to R500,000 (or up to R2.5 million for the retooling of existing processing industry enterprises); and to commit themselves to standard-design buildings and equipment, housing, and other projects for social and consumer services purposes with an estimated cost of up to R200,000 without prior coordination with territorial planning institutions. These works are to be financed out of funds envisaged for capital construction. Planning organizations within the USSR Gosagroprom system are authorized to carry out planning and surveying work under contract for kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agro-industrial complex enterprises and organizations in excess of the plans set for them.

It is laid down that itemized project lists for planning and surveying work and new construction projects for production purposes within the USSR Gosagroprom system will be approved as follows according to estimated costs:

— up to R1 million by leaders of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other enterprises and organizations;

— between R1 and R2 million by rayon agro-industrial associations;

— up to R4 million by kray and oblast agro-industrial committees and autonomous republic gosagroproms;

— up to R8 million by union republic gosagroproms;

— R8 million and above by the USSR Gosagroprom (with the exception of particularly important construction projects to be approved by the USSR Council of Ministers).

Design plans for the construction of enterprises, buildings, and equipment within the USSR Gosagroprom system with an estimated cost of R10 million and over are to approved by the USSR Gosagroprom (for all construction projects within its system); and those with an estimated cost of up to R10 million, according to procedures to be laid down by it. Documents governing the acceptance of projects for commissioning are to approved by the body which sanctioned the itemized project lists for their construction.

It is laid down that, in order to obtain construction finance, enterprises and organizations within the agro-industrial complex system will submit to USSR Gosbank offices itemized project lists and itemized intraproject lists for construction projects, financing plans, and contracts for the performance of subcontracted work.

Rayon agro-industrial associations and other management organs in the agro-industrial complex are empowered to channel in the second half of any year any funds allocated by the state plan for capital construction and not utilized by individual enterprises and organizations under their direct jurisdiction (with the exception of their own funds) into the financing of design planning and construction and installation work on projects included in the plan and into payments for machines, agricultural technology, and equipment.

It is laid down that wage computation in construction work done by sovkhozes and other enterprises and organizations in the

agro-industrial complex system by the own-resource method will be in accordance with USSR Council of Ministers and AUCCTU Resolution No 87, dated 24 January 1985, on the basis of the normative labor-intensiveness and wages for construction and installation work specified in the construction estimates. Pending the transition to this system, computations must be worked out on the basis of the volume of work envisaged in the planning and estimate documentation and calculations of labor expenditure and wages in accordance with the schedule of works.

For the purpose of further improving design planning and creating an integrated system of design planning organizations within the agro-industrial complex system, it is deemed expedient to transfer agriculture-oriented design planning institutes from the jurisdiction of union republic gosstroys to the jurisdiction of union republic gosagroproms in 1986.

The USSR Gosagroprom, USSR Gosplan, USSR Gossnab, and USSR Gosstroy are instructed to elaborate and approve by 1 August 1986 normatives for material and technical resources for the repair and current maintenance needs of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other enterprises and organizations within the agro-industrial complex system, including normatives for such resources for the maintenance of farm roads. Its is incumbent upon the USSR Gosplan and USSR Gossnab, as of 1987, to make provision in plans for the allocation of all necessary material and technical resources for the repair and current maintenance needs of agro-industrial complex enterprises and organizations according to the normatives in question.

Sovkhoz directors and leaders of other state enterprises and organizations within the USSR Gosagroprom system are empowered, by agreement with trade union organizations and labor collectives, to provide from economic incentive funds payments for materials acquired by workers in these enterprises and organizations to build individual homes by their own efforts, with such payments not to exceed 50 percent of the cost of these materials. Kolkhozes are recommended to use their own funds to provide identical payments for materials acquired by kolkhoz members to build individual homes.

It is incumbent upon the USSR Gosagroprom and its local organs to step up the attention they give to the work of enterprises in the meat, dairy, and food industry which have transferred to new conditions of economic management in accordance with earlier USSR Government decisions, and to ensure their further improvement with due consideration for enhancing the interest and responsibility of labor collectives for obtaining high end results from the activity of enterprises and organizations.

It is deemed necessary to pay pensions equivalent to 100 percent of the established norms to pensioners who are permanent residents in the countryside and are involved in agriculture.

It is incumbent upon the USSR Gosagroprom, together with interested USSR ministries and departments and union republic council of ministers, to expand and deepen the conducting of comprehensive economic experiments for the further improvement of the agro-industrial production management, planning, financing, and incentive system. Experience in the implementation of measures envisaged by this resolution and also the results of economic experiments must be systematically generalized. Proposals must be elaborated by 1990 for the improvement of the agro-industrial complex economic machinery in the 13th 5-Year Plan period and must be submitted for examination by the USSR Council of Ministers simultaneously with the draft plan for economic and social development in 1991-1995.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers emphasized in particular that the implementation of the measures to restructure management and improve the economic machinery demands substantial changes in the style and methods of leadership of the agro-industrial complex and a substantial rise in the level of all organizational and political work. This work, as the 27th CPSU Congress demands, must be aimed primarily at strengthening party, state, and technological discipline; developing the initiative and enhancing the labor activeness of labor collectives; and inculcating in each worker a sense of lofty exactingness and responsibility for fulfilling the plans and achieving the highest possible end results.

The most important task for union republic Communist Party central committees and councils of ministers, party kraykoms, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, gorispolkoms, and rayispolkoms, and the USSR Gosagroprom and its organs is to further reinforce all sectors of agro-industrial production with skilled cadres capable of running it efficiently on the basis of the latest achievements of scientific and technical progress.

In order to successfully fulfill the set tasks it is necessary to raise the standard of cadres retraining, making sure that they fully master modern methods of management and principles of work on the principles of the collective contract and financial autonomy and that they acquire profound knowledge of intensive, energy-saving, and other advanced technologies and the ability to make thrifty and rational use of resources.

It is necessary to considerably step up the attention given to improving the skills of cadres in the mass trade, making sure that every worker masters the fundamentals of economics, has a perfect knowledge of the job entrusted to him, and is capable of ensuring in practice high labor productivity and production efficiency.

Proceeding from the new and higher demands made on cadres, the USSR Gosagroprom and the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education are instructed to make the relevant changes to study plans and training programs in higher and secondary specialized education establishments which train specialists for agro-industrial complex enterprises and organizations.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers express firm confidence that the labor collectives, party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations, and leaders and specialists of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agro-industrial complex enterprises and organizations will make full use of the new favorable conditions of economic management, achieve a significant increase in the return from existing potential and allocated

resources, an acceleration of the rate of production growth, and an improvement in output quality, and thus make a fitting contribution to the fulfillment of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions and the further enhancement of the Soviet people's prosperity.

'Inertia' Delays Agro-Industrial Improvement

LD012254 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0320 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Commentary by Professor Grigorevich Ushachev, deputy director of the All-Union Institute of Agricultural Economics]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have, as is known, adopted a decision on further improving the economic mechanism of management in the country's agro-industrial complex. At the microphone is our regular commentator on economic matters, Professor Ivan Grigorevich Ushachev, deputy director of the All-Union Institute of Agricultural Economics:

The main idea in this decision is to give full range to economic methods of running farms. I would like to stress the word "full range" [prostor]. As is known, the main element in the economic mechanism is planning. Therefore, it is primarily intended to implement a number of measures directed at further improving this element. It is planned, beginning in 1987, to establish plans for the purchases of agricultural produce for kolkhozes and sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises according to quotas [normativ] which will be based on the quality of land, on the degree of provision of fixed production assets, on the availability of labor, and on other resources. It is precisely the quota method of planning that makes it possible to form equally intensive plans which will make it possible to significantly increase the responsibility for their fulfillment, and to better utilize the available production potential. That is the first point.

Second, it is envisaged in the planning sphere to greatly cut the number of plan indicators, which are approved by the kolkhozes and sovkhozes and the enterprises in other industries of the agro-industrial complex, from above. It is intended to set up a stable year-by-year plan for grain purchases in the 12th 5-Year Plan, instead of the present purchase plan being approved, which accumulates over the years of the 5-year plan. With the aim of enhancing the personal interest and responsibility of local bodies for improving the provision of food products to the population, this decision plans to establish for union and autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts only plans for supplies to union and republican funds [fond] and also subsidies [dotatsiya] of meat and meat products, milk and milk products, eggs, potatoes, vegetables, fruits, berries, and grapes. What is more, the plans for supplies and grants are outlined as stable for the 5-year plan with a breakdown [razbivka] over the years, which is very important. Produce after the fulfillment of plans for supplies to union and republican funds remains at the disposal of local bodies. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes are allowed to sell to consumer cooperative organizations and at kolkhoz markets, in accordance with the agreement, at prices of up to 30 percent of the plan purchases for potatoes and fruit and vegetable produce and all above plan agricultural produce on account of [s zachetom] fulfilling plans for its sale to the state. [sentence as heard] The decision determines measures for intensifying the agricultural enterprises' personal economic stake in the growth of production and the sale of grain to the state. On fulfilling the state plan for the sale of grain, farms will be paid supplements to the purchase prices to the tune of 100 percent for the entire quantity sold above the average yearly level of the 11th 5-Year Plan. Besides this, for farms overfulfilling plans for grain purchases counter sales [vstrechnaya prodazha] of automobiles, wheeled tractors, construction, and other materials in short supply are on offer.

Plans for the purchases of sunflowers and sugar beet have not been fulfilled in recent years. With the aim of providing an additional incentive to achieve a growth in their production, it has been recognized as expedient to carry out, without allocation certificates [beznaryadnyy], the release or sale of this produce — sunflower seed oil or oilcake, beet pulp, and molasses — in the form of supplying goods under contract [otovarivaniye] to farm-suppliers.

In doing this, there will be an increased supply of goods under contract for oilseed and sugar beet produced above the level of the preceding 5-year plan. The implementation of the proposed measures for improving the economic machinery will make it possible to more fully use the agro-industrial complex' potential, as well as the possibilities of each region to increase the production of foodstuffs produce and to improve supplies to the population.

And so the positions have been marked out. The state decisions will go to the executors. It is now important to fulfill these decisions accurately. There is nothing to be gained by concealing how much was left unfulfilled in the not so distant past or, as it was customary to put it in mild terms, was not completely fulfilled. And now, what has been hindering the local organs of the agro-industrial complex from utilizing their new and considerable rights more rapidly and more effectively? In many places, alas, restructuring is being delayed too long. Inertia, the former narrow departmental approach, a craving for instructions from above are still providing an obstacle. It is more tranquil when these things are present. There is a fear of socialist enterprise, for this also represents a kind of risk. The qualifications of cadres in a whole number of professions are poor. It seems important to us that the old methods of management are renounced as soon as possible.

Need To Improve Machinery Repair Work Viewed

PM020805 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 27 Mar 86 p 1

[Yu. Grachev "Agricultural Review": "Bring Feed Harvesting Machinery Into Full Readiness!"]

[Excerpts] During these days workers in the rural engineering service are devoting much attention to preparing vehicles and machines to be taken out into the meadows and fields. They realize that this work must be dealt with as soon as possible. Because once the sowing begins, there will simply be no opportunity to successfully complete repairs of feed harvesting machinery.

On those farms that are fully aware of what complex, responsible work is to be done in the feed fields, they are trying to utilize workshops to full capacity. Specialized enterprises of the State Agro-Industrial Committee are also involved in repairs of feed harvesting machinery; the supply services seek to provide rural repair workers with the necessary spare parts and subassemblies. And there are already many farms where, as a result of harmonious operations, all of the feed harvesting machinery is in readiness.

Unfortunately, it appears that not everyone knows the true value of time in haymaking. Central Statistical Administration figures show that despite the relatively good situation regarding the preparation of feed harvesting machinery in the country as a whole, people are not hurrying to do this very important work in a number of rayons and oblasts.

Thus, this year in the North Kazakhstan Oblast, where one-third of the tractor mowers were unprepared for the green harvest last year, the farms are again lagging behind the planned schedules for repairing haymaking machinery. It appears that they have not profited from last year's lesson. Nor has the proper conclusion been drawn from last year's errors on many farms in Turkmenia, Tajikistan, and Aktyubinsk, East Kazakhstan, Semipalatinsk, and Volgograd Oblasts, where the haymaking time begins much earlier than in other regions of the country, but the readiness of the machine pool leaves something to be desired.

Even for the rural collectives in the country's more northern oblasts, delay can hardly be permitted. Some complacency can be observed, for instance, on farms in Ryazan, Kirov, Chelyabinsk, and Sverdlovsk Oblasts and the Udmurt Autonomous Republic, where by mid-March no more than 65 percent of the tractor mowers, the same proportion of tractor rakes, and 70-80 percent of pickup balers had been prepared.

A subject of special concern must be the repair of complex feed harvesting machinery: type KSK-100 and Ye-281 combines. So far, their readiness in the country as a whole is less than 70 percecnt. And in the Kazakh SSR only around one-half of these machines are ready to go. KSK-100 and Ye-281 combines are being repaired at a slow pace in a number of oblasts of the Ukraine, Moldavia, Tajikistan, and the RSFSR.

It must be stressed that the repair of complex feed harvesting machinery gives the rural workers even more trouble because in some places they have not succeeded in using the potential created for this purpose by the formation of the agro-industrial complex. Specialized enterprises are not sufficiently involved in the restoration of these complex machines; the supply of spare parts and subassemblies to workshops is not always efficiently organized. Local engineering services do not always carry out timely fault detection work on combines, and they are slow to deliver them to the specialized workshops. The renovation of components for this machinery has not been organized everywhere; this is of great significance in organizing the repair of the machinery and its timely preparation for the feed harvest.

At specialized enterprises of the Moskovskiy Rayon Agro-Industrial Association in the Kirghiz SSR, special sections have been assigned to carry out comprehensive repairs on complex feed harvesting machines.

In the Lithuanian SSR five specialized enterprises of the State Agro-Industrial Committee are involved in repairing complex feed harvesting machinery. In Belorussia such enterprises have managed to organize the renovation of more than 170 types of the scarcest components. In some places the collectives of local industrial enterprises are involved in manufacturing them. It is now a matter of disseminating this experience widely.

Evidently we cannot get by without more active, purposeful assistance from the industrial collectives responsible for supplying the countryside with material and technical resources. There are still many shortcomings in the supply of spare parts to workshops and enterprises of the State Agro-Industrial Committee. The editorial office constantly receives complaints from rural repair workers about the collectives of the Kirghiz SSR agricultural machinery plant named for Frunze, the Lyubertsy Zavod Imeni Ukhtomskogo production association, the Gomselmash production association, the Syzranselmash plant, the Sosnovyy Bor machine plant in Leningrad Oblast, and a number of other enterprises of the Ministry of Machine Building for Livestock Raising and Feed Production.

Despite the frequent criticism, this department has not yet succeeded in organizing its plants' work in such a way as to fully satisfy the requirments of rural workers for reliable feed harvesting machinery and spare parts.

Rural machine operators make justified complaints about the quality of KSK-100 combines. The design shortcomings of these machines are affecting the development of feed production. Yet the Ministry of Machine Building for Livestock Raising and Feed Production appears quite unable to organize the production of more up-to-date, more productive machinery at its enterprises. Yet there was plenty of time and resources to do this.

"Treat feed crops like grain!" This slogan, which rural workers are adopting everywhere, must be the pivot of the forthcoming green harvest. Carrying out the harvest to a high organizational standard is the concern of all components of the agro-industrial complex.

Further on Lizichev Report on Ideological Training

PM011016 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Mar 86 Second Edition p 2

[Unattributed article: "Proceeding From Life and Exerting Influence Upon Life"]

[Text] As has already reported, a conference of chiefs of propaganda and agitation sections of political directorates of branches of the Armed Forces, districts, groups of forces, and fleets; editors of district, group, and fleet newspapers; and chiefs of district, group, and fleet officers' houses was held at the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army. The participants focused their attention on questions of how to implement in practice the 27th CPSU Congress' demands on ideological education work.

A report was delivered to the conference by Army General A. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. The 27th CPSU Congress decisions, he said, require us to direct cadres toward new tasks and to channel the creative potential of the personnel and every military collective toward carrying them out.

The scale and innovatoriness of our work require that we resolutely dispense with stagnant thinking, the purely didactic thrust of many propaganda measures, their isolation from the grassroots, and ideological cadres' attachment to outmoded forms. The task of establishing professionalism in the organization of ideological activity is becoming more pressing than ever before. What must be overcome here is the formal bureaucratic, quantative approach where emphasis is placed solely on impressive plans and large-scale measures and agitational campaigns. This must be guarded against by the establishment of a strict system of objective work which must be targeted at achieving definite end results.

What must he organizers of ideological work and the ideological aktiv have at the forefront of their minds? The speaker stressed that we possess an undoubted moral and political superiority over our likely opponent and must augment it. Ideological influence on the attitude of cadres and all servicemen to combat training and its quality must be stepped up. The quality of combat training is above all a problem of people, of their combat mood, and of critical and exacting evaluation of the results of their work.

All ostensibly familiar questions must be looked at through fresh eyes and new approaches to them must be determined. In fact, all "traditional" tasks have become more complex today and require in-depth consideration and creative effort to find solutions. And it is now time to move away from words and wishes to deeds, to specific organizational and educational measures capable of yielding an appreciable return in the results of martial labor in the very near future.

Molding in military servicemen a scientific, Marxist-Leninist world outlook and a high level of ideological commitment is the central task of our ideological efforts, the speaker stressed. It is important not to forget that this is not a process of offering abstract truths. The utterly concrete nature of the molding of communist ideological commitment and the fact, stressed at the congress, that "you cannot be an ideologically committed person "if you are not honest, conscientious, upright, and self-exacting," must be remembered. It is necessary to eradicate manifestations of pedantry in the Marxist-Leninist training of officers, to vigorously introduce a heuristic teaching method into their studies, to analyze in depth pressing issues from the standpoint of the theoretical tenets and program demands of the party, and to closely link the material being studied to the practical tasks of instructing and educating subordinates.

There must be a more practical thrust to ensigns' and warrant officers' political studies. It is necessary to analyze more often during political classes with soldiers, sailors, sergeants, and petty officers their service and attitude to duty, instances of unhealthy phenomena in military collectives and in the conduct of some servicemen, and the circumstances underlying them. It is necessary to proceed from life and exert influence upon life.

Participants' attention was drawn to problems of ideological and political education work aimed at enhancing the level of organization and strengthening regulation order and military discipline. The inculcation in cadres of the ability to see the political point of all their activity and to take account of the moral consequences of their actions is of great importance here. There are still officers who do not correctly understand the crux of the concept of closeness to people. It is not a purely formal closeness but a lasting spiritual and moral unity that is meant. Quite frequently there is neglect of questions such as the manifestation of concern for servicemen's daily life and their cultural growth, fair demands on subordinates, the personal example of a superior, intolerance of toadying and servility, and the ability to listen and show respect to opinions expressed — questions, that is, which, when resolved, create an atmosphere of closeness.

The desire of some commanders and political workers to conceal negative features does not help to strengthen discipline. It diminishes their authority and generates passivity in eradicating breaches. There must be more realism in assessment and more persistence in the struggle for discipline, and a lot can be done here by means of ideological influence. There must be no slackening of effort to establish a sober life style. It is necessary to boldly shift the focus of all ideological education work toward exerting daily ideological influence on the combat training activity of troops and naval forces, stepping up socialist competition, and counterpropaganda. The tasks confronting the military press organs bound up with the need to restructure in the spirit of present-day party demands on the mass media were detailed, and there was a discussion of ways to improve the activity of cultural enlightenment establishments and make skillful use of technical propaganda means in ideological work. Considerable attention was paid to improving work with propaganda cadres. Measures to organize in-depth study of the 27th CPSU Congress documents with the personnel and carry out its decisions were examined in specific terms. It was stressed that ideological work is by its very nature inseparable from organizational work and that their close organic link must always be ensured in everything. Therein lies the key to success, to ensuring the effectiveness of party political work, and to enhancing its influence on the resolution of the Armed Forces' training tasks.

The following spoke at the conference plenary session: Colonel A. Sidorenko; Captain First Rank V. Sivograkov; Colonel G.

Shevchenko; Colonel B. Chistov; Colonel V. Nikolaychuk, Lieutenant Colonel A. Kostin; Lieutenant Colonel V. Ivlikov; Colonel N. Gusarov; and Colonel A. Yevdoshenko.

Work in sections took place and a seminar was held as part of the conference. Conference participants attended a number of lectures.

P. Slezko, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department, participated in the conference's work.

Vladivostok Draft Organization Flaws Discussed

PM010858 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Mar 86 Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed article under the rubric "After *KRASNAYA ZVEZDA* Spoke Out": "Before Beginning Service"]

[Text] On 5 December 1985 *KRASNAYA ZVEZDA* published a report by Captain First Class Yu. Timoshuk entitled "He Did Not Arrive On Time," which discussed shortcomings in the preparation of young people in Vladivostok's Frunzenskiy Rayon for military service and in the organization of their draft into the Army and Navy.

The editorial office received a reply signed by Major General I. Podgorny, first deputy chief of staff of the Far Eastern Military District, who reports that the article has been discussed at a joint conference of workers of the CPSU gorkom, gorispolkom, and kray military commissariat. A joint plan of work was adopted to improve young people's military patriotic education and organize the prompt registration of citizens at recruitment centers and their draft for active military service. The soviet krayispolkom has resolved the question of transferring a building to the kray military commissariat for housing the kray assembly center. Thequestion of equipping the Frunzenskiy Rayon military commissariat recruitment center was also resolved.

Lieutenant Colonel G. Kulik, rayon military commissar, has been disciplined for violations permitted in the work of organizing the draft of young people. The military prosecutor has also warned him about the impermissibility of breaches of the law. Lieutenant Colonel A. Yablonskiy, section chief of the kray military commissariat, was severely reprimanded for laxity in monitoring subordinates' activity.

Colonel of Justice V. Kaunin, military prosecutor of the Pacific Ocean Fleet, reported to the editorial office that the Maritime Kray military commissar has been informed about breaches of the USSR Law "On Compulsory Military Service." Replies signed by senior legal counsellors I. Sinegubov and A. Kolesnikov, deputy prosecutors of the Maritime Kray, report on measures aimed at stepping up prosecutor's office supervision of the execution of this law.

Unfortunately when the author was preparing the report for publication, certain facts connected with circumstances of student E. Itskevich's draft were not properly checked. As a result Doctor A.M. Krasnykh was unjustly criticized. In this connection the editorial office offers its apologies to A.M. Krasnykh. The author of the report has been severely reprimanded.